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Did You Know?

[First Lady Michelle Obama & Seth Meyers have some advice for college freshmen.](#)

The duo surprised some lucky college freshmen at Howard University, and gave them some useful advice for their first year of college!

GEAR UP UPDATES

- **Update:** [Washington State Per Diem Map](#). See link for rates effective **Oct.1, 2016**. The updates apply to lodging only at this time. No change to meals and personal mileage further notice.
- **Action Required: Are you a 12th Year Campaign Site?** If so, you can [order free printed postcards, stickers, posters, and brochures](#) to promote your event and prepare your students!
- **Update:** [Act Waiver](#). See link for language about GEAR UP students and ACT waiver eligibility.
- **Newly Updated!** [FAFSA Priority Filing Deadlines for WA colleges and universities](#). View FAFSA filing deadlines for Washington schools, financial aid office contact information, and whether the school requires a supplemental application in addition to the FAFSA.
- **Action Required: GEAR UP West Registration & Lodging Accommodations:** [Conference Registration](#) is open. [Lodging](#): Davenport room block closes Sept. 16.
- **Upcoming 12th Year Campaign Trainings:**
 - [2016 -2017 Senior Cycle Webinar](#). Sept. 13, 1:00 PM.
 - [FAFSA/WASFA Volunteer Training Webinar](#). Sept. 14, 1:00 PM.

OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Webinar:** [The Framing of Student Success through an Equity Lens](#) by OSPI GATE. Sept. 14, 10 AM.
- **Save the Date:** [2016 Washington Financial Aid Association \(WFAA\) Conference](#). With all the coming changes in financial aid, you won't want to miss this opportunity. Oct. 12-14, Spokane.
- **Save the Date:** [5th Annual Beyond HB 1079 Conference](#). Open to undocumented HS/college students, family members, educators, and community members/advocates. UW Seattle, Oct. 15.
- **Webinar:** [Hidden in Plain Sight: Homeless Students in America's Public Schools](#). Learn more about the current state of homeless students and how the new ESSA guidelines that will require districts – for the first time – to report high school grad rates for homeless students. Sept. 22, 11 AM.
- **Webinar:** [FAFSA Demo Line-by-Line](#). The Office of Federal Student Aid will walk through the FAFSA line-by-line for educators. September 27, 2:00 pm
- **OSPI Fall Regional Workshops for School Counselors**. For high school counselors, dual credit program leaders and principals with focus on balancing information and activity-based learning. Olympia-Oct. 12, Spokane, Oct. 13, Renton-Oct. 17, & Yakima- Oct. 21.

RESOURCES

- **Up Next: Free College Readiness Text Messages**. First Lady Michelle Obama is encouraging students to use this free text-messaging tool. It sends high school juniors and seniors, college students, and graduates personalized text messages with reminders and information about the college application process, financial aid, and federal loan repayment options. Just text the word "COLLEGE" to 44044.

- [College Go App](#). Free from College Board. Help guide students through the essential steps to take in order to find, apply to, and attend the right college.
- [Sal Khan: Let's Teach For Mastery—Not Test Scores](#). Sal's latest TED talk explains why we need mastery-based learning if we want students to develop a growth mindset. Check it out!
- [GLSEN's Ally Week](#) is a week for LGBTQ youth to share what being a good ally means to them and push for schools to be safe and inclusive for all. Sept. 26-30. See also: **WAGU Featured Resource: [Supporting Transgender Students: College Admissions & Financial Aid. A Resource Guide for College Access Professionals](#)**. This resource guide is designed to assist college access professionals who work with high school students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ). The information provided has an emphasis on supporting transgender youth who plan to continue their education at a postsecondary institution.
- [New Attendance Toolkit from MENTOR](#). The National Mentoring Partnership, has released a promotional toolkit with mentoring and attendance specific social media messages, including Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn posts, Tweets and Digital images.

RESEARCH

[The Condition of Education 2016](#). The report is the 42nd of its kind, produced under congressional mandate by The U.S. Department of Education's data branch, the National Center for Education Statistics. It outlines the latest data on everything from public school enrollment to the median earnings of degree recipients.

IN THE NEWS

Please send any media coverage to Katherine at katherinek@wsac.wa.gov. We want to feature you here and in our newsroom: <http://gearup.wa.gov/news>.

- [Washington Joins Nationwide Open Resource Initiative](#). #GoOpen encourages states to share open educational materials.
- [Fading College Dream Sapping The U.S. Economy](#). A steady decline in college enrollment nationwide is impacting productivity growth, wages, and more.
- [The Education System Is Rigged Against Low-Income Students, Even In Kindergarten](#). A new report shows disparities continue through high school and college.
- [VIDEO: Talking About Race In The Classroom](#). 2016 Washington Teacher of the Year Nate Gibbs-Bowling talks about how he intentionally talks to student about race.
- [Enrollment Numbers Early Sign of Success for Colleges](#). Transfers from the state's community colleges to historically four-year institutions are increasing.
- [What It Takes](#). Two high-poverty schools chase better graduation rates.
- [16 Placements In Eight Years](#). Teen details life in foster-care system.
- [What First-Generation College Students Want](#). Sometimes young people are left out of the conversation about what they need to succeed.
- [As The Number Of Homeless Students Soars, How Schools Can Serve Them Better](#). The ESSA includes both new mandates and some extra money to assist districts.
- [Obama Administration Proposes Rules For How School Districts Spend Money Meant For Poor Kids](#). The [draft rules](#) would govern how school districts allocate billions of Title I dollars meant to educate poor children.
- [Campuses Cautiously Train Freshmen Against Subtle Insults](#). Orientations are now including conversations around topics like diversity, consent, and microaggressions.
- [As School Starts, More States Focus on Native American Students](#). In Washington and across the U.S., Native American students struggle more than any other student group to [attend school consistently](#) and [graduate on time](#).
- [How False Stereotypes About People With Disabilities Hold Employers Back](#). A major [Princeton study](#) shows that while people with disabilities are seen as warm, they are not seen as competent.
- [Lessons from a Dropout Prevention Specialist: To Support Students, Support Families Too](#). To help students, sometimes you have to help their families.

SCHOLARSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES

- [Academic Acceleration Grant](#). Grants available to develop new capacity for dual credit courses. iGrant application #661. **Due Sept. 30.**
- [Hispanic Heritage Youth Awards](#). For HS seniors who identify as Hispanic/Latinx. Min. 3.0 GPA. Must be a US Citizen/Permanent Resident/ qualify under DACA. \$1,000 to \$3,000. Due 10/2.

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	DUE
<u>We the Future Contest</u>	Open to K-12 students, college students, law school students, graduate schools students, adults 25 years of age and older, and seniors 65 years of age and older. Each age group has different requirements, so applicants should visit website for details. Amount varies.	9/17
<u>Siemens: Competition in Math, Science, and Technology</u>	Maximum award: \$100,000 college scholarship. Eligibility: students must enrolled in HS (grades 9-12) during the 16-17 school year, individually or as a team.	9/20
<u>QuestBridge National College Match</u>	Online platform that helps outstanding low-income HS seniors gain admission and full 4-year scholarships to some of the nation's most selective colleges.	9/27
<u>Disney Friends for Change Grants</u>	Offers young change-makers \$500 to gather their friends and turn their creative ideas to help their communities into projects. Youth ages 5-18 located in all 50 states and DC are eligible.	9/30
<u>Don't Text and Drive Scholarship</u>	Open to HS students in grades 9-12 and current college or graduate school students. Must complete a short form and share a 140-character statement explaining why they will not text and drive. \$1,000.	9/30
<u>Odenza Marketing Group Scholarship</u>	Must submit 2 small essays, one related to travel, & the other on why they deserve a scholarship. Must be 16-25, w/ 2.5 GPA or greater. US citizenship required. \$500.	9/30
<u>Scholarship Poetry Contest</u>	Open to all U.S. HS students. Applicant must submit an original poem with 20 lines or less. Up to \$500.	9/30
<u>Shout It Out Scholarship</u>	Open to students 13 years of age or older who are legal residents of the 50 US or the DC and are currently enrolled (or will enroll no later than the fall of 2021) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education. Applicant will need to submit a short response to a given prompt. \$1,500.	9/30
<u>U.S. Bank Scholarship Program</u>	Complete a series of Financial Genius for Life online learning modules for a chance to win \$20,000.	9/30
<u>Courage to Grow Scholarship</u>	\$500 scholarship given monthly for HS juniors or seniors with a 2.5 GPA or better; requires an essay	9/30
<u>Golden Door Scholars Scholarship for Undocumented Students</u>	Funding cover tuition and room & board for a 4-year degree. Get access to internships and other career-building opportunities. Must be eligible for DACA.	10/3
<u>Counselors- WSU Regents Scholarship</u>	The WSU Regents Scholars Program recognizes Washington's best high school students for their hard work and academic accomplishments. We invite high school educators and administrators to nominate your two most distinguished seniors for the Regents Scholar Program. All eligible nominees will receive a four-year Regents Program scholarship and have the opportunity to compete for a Distinguished Regents Scholar Award. Student nominees must submit apps by 11/30/16.	10/14
<u>Lexus and Scholastic Launch Contest for Middle and HS Students - Land & Water Challenge</u>	STEM contest for 6-12 grades. This challenge is an educational program and contest designed to inspire and empower students to learn about the environment and take action to improve it. Awardees will receive a total of \$500,000 in grants and scholarships.	10/17
<u>LEAP1% Scholarship Fund</u>	For Latino/a students. \$1,000-\$5,000. Must graduate this spring & enroll in college next fall.	10/21
<u>Horatio Alger Scholarship</u>	Provides six \$5,000 scholarships to students who have exhibited integrity and perseverance in overcoming personal adversity and who aspire to pursue higher education.	10/25
<u>Coca-Cola Scholarships</u>	50 four-year \$20,000 scholarships and 200 four-year \$10,000 scholarships. Students are recognized for their capacity to lead and serve,	10/31

	and their commitment to making a significant impact on their schools and communities.	
Washington Women in Need Education Grant for Winter	For WA females age 18 or over who are admitted into or registered at an accredited education institution in Washington state.\$5,000.	10/31
Apply for the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Contest.	Past finalist include Neah Bay HS. Help another Washington school make it all the way to the finals! Teachers can nominate their school from now until October 31.	10/31
Disney Dreamers Academy Applications.	For young leaders (ages 13- 19) with a winning combination of attributes that reflect strong character, positive attitude, and persistence to take advantage of opportunities.	10/31

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES! To view the Calendar of Events for WAGU and also partner events related to access, visit:
<http://www.gearup.wa.gov/calendar>.

- [PNACAC Regional College Fair](#). Oct. 21-22- Seattle, Oct. 25- Spokane, Oct. 23- Portland.
- [Saint Martin's Open House](#). 10/2.
- [WSU Fall Preview](#). 10/3
- [EWU Fall Information Night: Yakima](#). 10/4.
- [Pacific Lutheran University: Fall Preview](#). 10/4.

[gearup.wa.gov](http://www.gearup.wa.gov)

